Finding Jacques Courval

Having an ancestral line that ends abruptly can be frustrating, but it also presents a motivational challenge. For most serious genealogists, the challenge is what drives you onward. One of these brick walls in my own family tree was a man named Jacques Courval (Corval).

Jacques Corval is listed on page 140 of Volume 1 of the Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles Canadiennes, compiled by Cyprien Tanguy (Tanguy). Jacques is listed as the spouse of Jeanne Hunault, and father of Louis-Augustin Corval.[1]

The entry in Tanquay volume 1 lists Jeanne's father as Toussaint Hunault, but does not refer to any parents for Jacques Courval.

There is no other reference to Jacques Courval in Tanguay Volume 1. On page 146 of Tanquay volume 1 there is a notation: 'Courval – Voy. Poulin', indicating the surname Courval is recognized as a variant (dit name) of the surname Poulin.

Looking at the Tanguay' Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 2, (1700-1760), there are no listings for anyone with the surname Corval or Courval, other than to reference to Courval as a 'dit' name for the surname Poulin.

I. — CORVAL, JACQUES.
HUNAULT, Jeanne, (1) [TOUSSAINT ?.
veuve d'Adrien Quevillon.
Louis-Augustin, b 4 juin 1698, à la Pointe-aux-Trembles de Montréal.[2]

On page 285 of the Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles du Quebec, by Rene Jette (Jette) , is the reference for the birth of Louis Augustin Courval, and the 'marriage' of Jacques Courval and Jeanne Hunault. As with the entry in Tanquay, Jeanne is listed as the widow (veuve) of Arien Quevillon. And again, the is no reference to the background of Jacques.

[1] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 1, 1608-1700, page 140, Cyprien Tanguy
[2] The footnote (1) for Jeanne Hunault that she was also the spouse of Pierre Tailefer, married on May 7, 1699, in Montreal.

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COURVAL ou **CORVAL**, Jacques (...) d'origine inconnue; d avant 07-05-1699, Rivière-des-Prairies; cité 18-02-1692 St-Laurent Î.O.

m entre **1682** et **1687**, chez les Iroquois

HUNAULT, Jeanne (veuve Adrien QUEVILLON) rem. 1699 Pierre TAILLEFER.

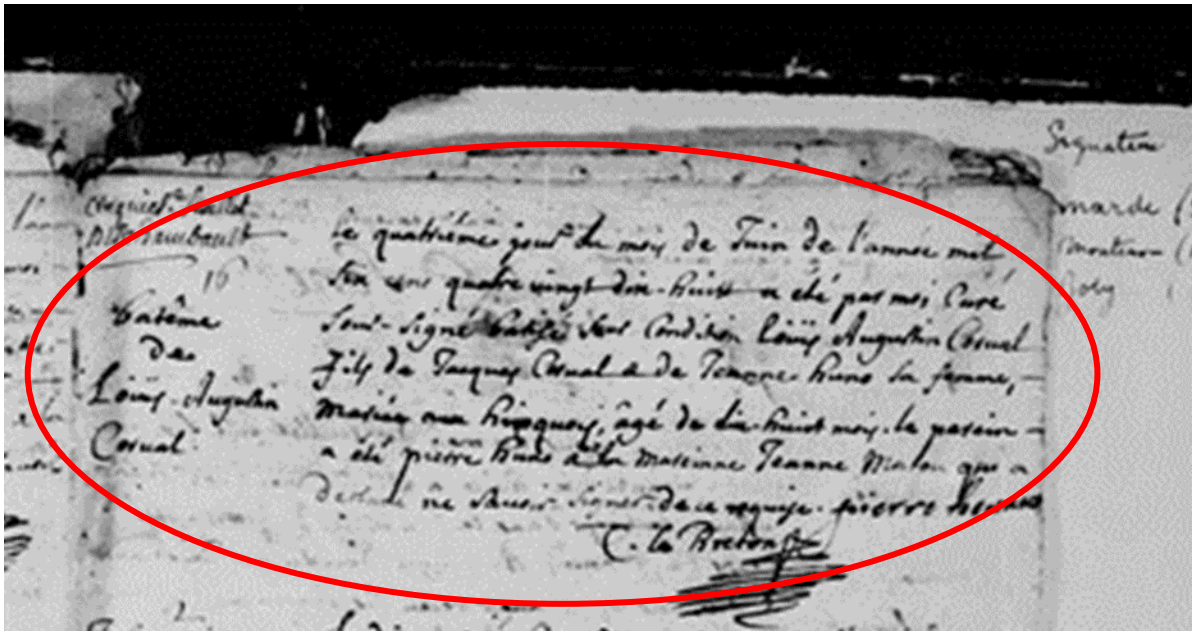
1. *Louis-Augustin* n janvier 1697 b 04-06-1698 Pointe-aux-Trembles m 1716 Agnès GOGUET.

[3]

In searching for the identity of Jacques Courval, the logical place to start was with his only known descendant, Louis Augustin Courval.

Louis Augustine Courval

Tanguy Volume 1, page 140, lists the baptism of Louis Augustin Courval on June 4, 1698 in Point-aux-Trembles, in Montreal. The record indicates his mother was Jeanne Hunault and his father as Jacques Courval. Jette also lists the baptism of Louis Augustine on page 285[4].



Copy of baptism record for Louis Augustin Courval, St-Enfant-Jesus-de-la-Pointe-aux-Trembles, Montreal. Dated June 4, 1698

[3] Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles du Quebec, by Rene Jette (Jette), page 285, pub 1983
[4] Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles du Quebec, by Rene Jette (Jette), page 285, pub 1983

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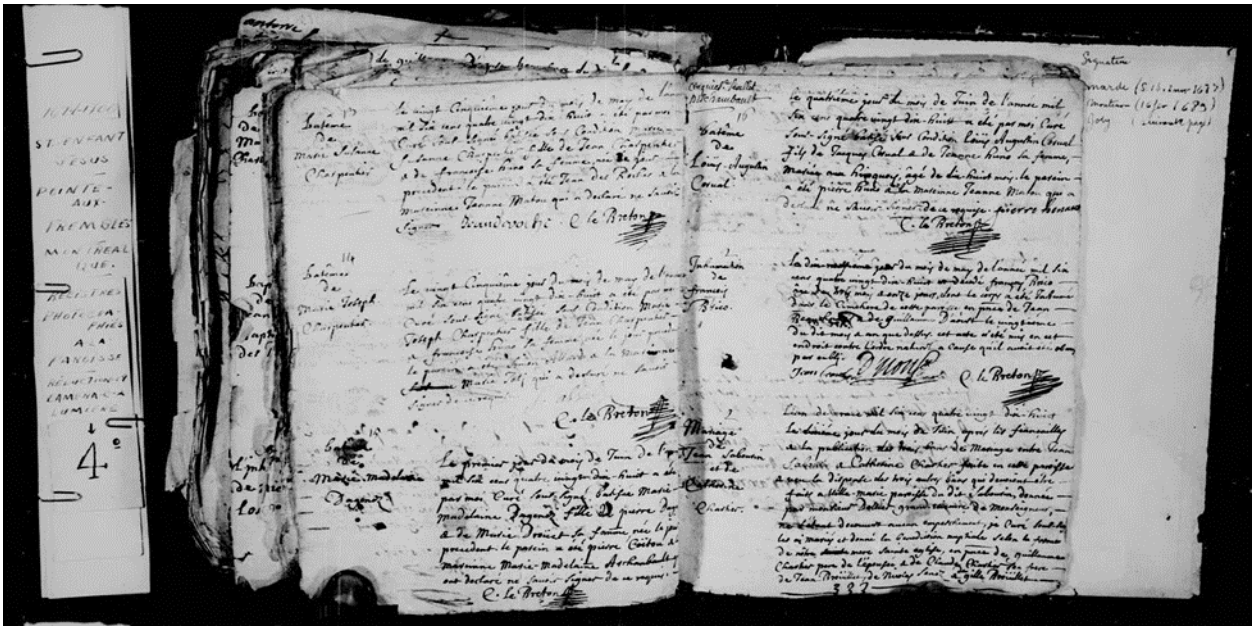

A number of notarial records list Louis Augustin as 'Louis Poulin Courval'.

Searching for additional information on Louis Courval, on Page 424 , of Tanquay Volume 2, is a refence under Michael Poulin, son of Maurice Poulin (and Jeanne Jallout), identified a son named Louis (Poulin), with no baptism date, but with a reference for his marriage to Agnes Goyet. This appears to be a reference to Louis Augustin Courval, who is recorded as having married Agnes Goyet.

1683, (2 juin) Trois-Rivières. [4]

III.—POULIN (1), MICHEL, [MAURICE II.
b 1655; s 2 février 1694, à Québec.
JUTRAS, Marie, [CLAUDE I.
b 1660; s [4] 17 janvier 1736
François, b [4] 2 oct. 1692; m 27 nov. 1718, à Thérèse DECOUAGNE, à Montréal.—*Louis*, b... m à Agnès GOYET.

5

The reference entry for Louis Poulin on page 425 of Tanguay volume 6 contains the entry for the marriage of Louis Poulin (?) to Agnes Goyet. Again, the entry refences Michel (Michael) as Louis' father.

[5] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 6, page 424, Cyprien Tanguy

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IV.—POULIN (1), Louis. [Michel III.
Goyet, Agnès.
Louis, b... m 5 oct. 1744, à Marie Dupré, à Terrebonne. [9] — *Paul*, b... 1° m [9] 9 juin 1745, à Elisabeth Dupré; 2° m [9] 13 avril 1760, à Marie-Joseph Limoges. — *François*, b 1725; m [9] 1er février 1751, à Marie-Madeleine Dupré; s [9] 28 oct. 1770. — *Angélique*, b... m 30 janvier 1758, à François Babin, à Boucherville.

[6]

Footnote 1 for Louis identifies his surname as Poulin 'dit Courval'.

The reference entry for Michael Poulin in Tanguy Volume 1, does not list a son named Louis.

Additionally, Michael Poulin died in on February 2, 1694, more than 3 years before Louis was born, based on his baptism date of June 4, 1698.

1683, (2 juin) Trois-Rivières. [2]

III. — POULAIN, Michel, [Maurice II.
s 2 fév. 1694, à Québec. [1]
Jutras, Marie, [Claude I.
s [2] 17 janv. 1736.
Pierre, b [2] 10 mars 1684; m à Madeleine-Louise Le Boulanger. — *Marie-Anne*, b [2] 26 avril 1686. — *Michel*, b [2] 12 fév. 1688; ordonné 8 oct. 1713; s [1] 10 oct. 1760, à l'Hôtel-Dieu. — *Jean-Baptiste*, b [2] 15 août 1690. — *François*, b [2] 2 oct. 1692.

[7]

[6] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 6, page 425, Cyprien Tanguy
[7] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 1, 1608-1700, page 496, Cyprien Tanguy

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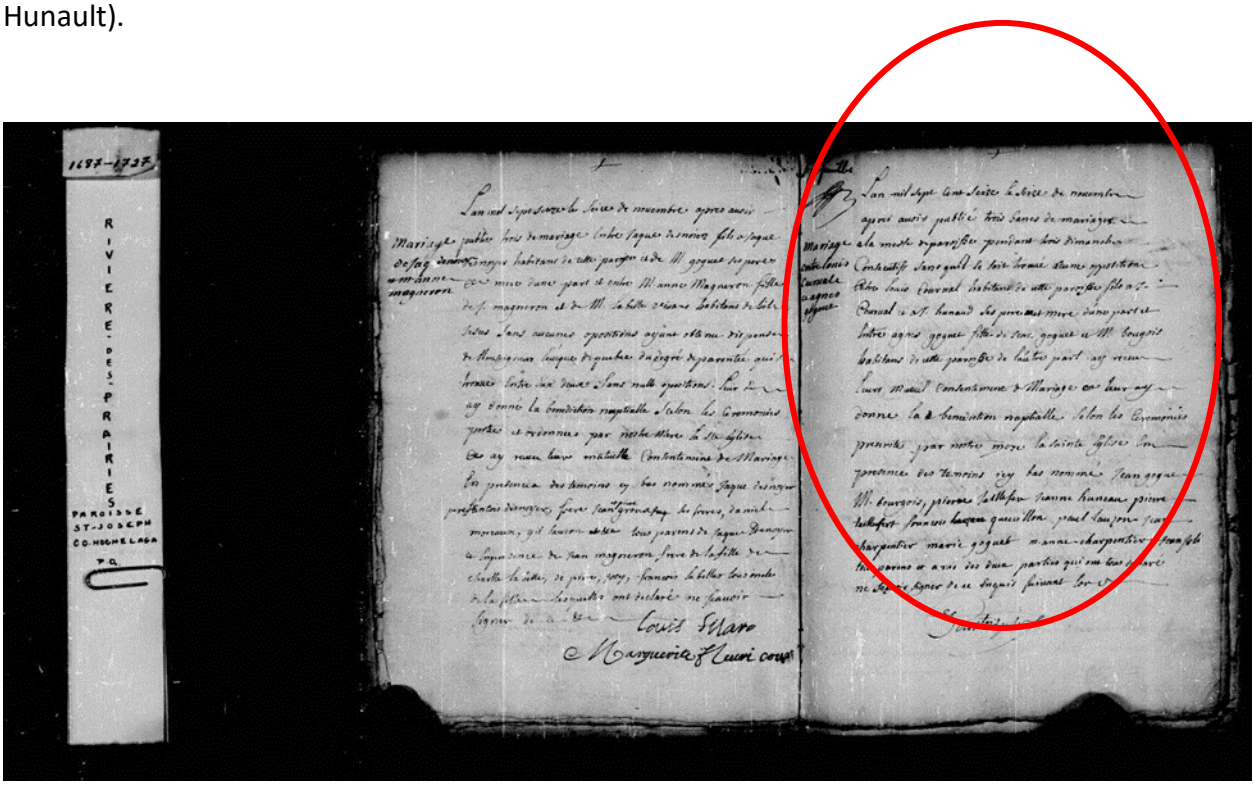
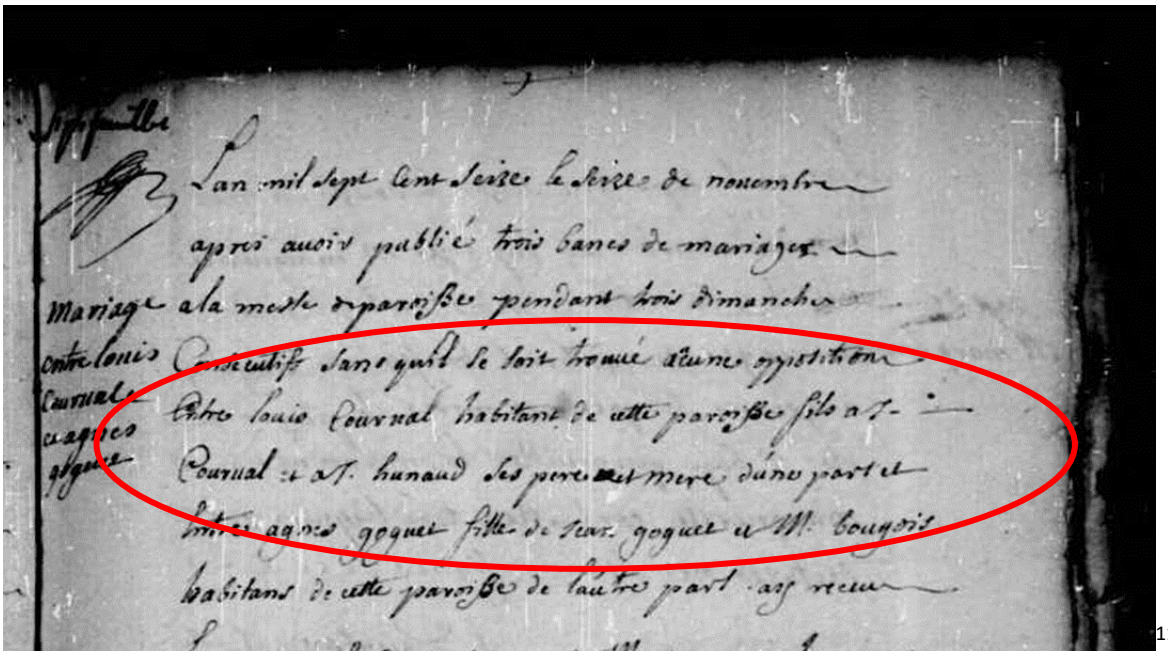
Both Tanguay and Jette include the record for the marriage of Louis Augustin Courval and Agnes Goguet (or Goyet), on November 16, 1716, in Riviere-des-Prairies.[8] [9] Jette lists Louis Augustin' surname as 'Courval', while Tanquay lists his surname as 'Poulin'. Tanquay again inserts the footnote 'Dit Courval' in reference to Louis' surname.

Review of the actual church records, Drouin Collection, Rivieres-des-Prairies, 1687-1727, list the marriage of Louis Courval and Agnes Gogeut on November 16, 1716. This marriage record also identifies Louis' parents by the surnames Courval and Hunaud (an alternate spelling for Hunault).



[10]

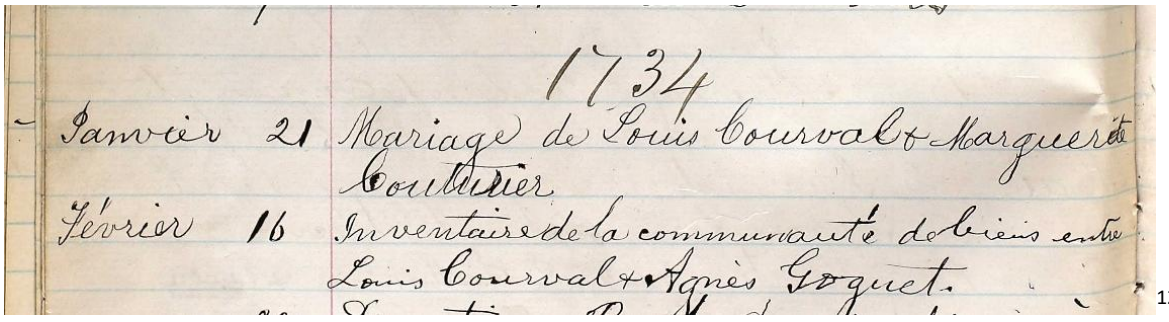
[8] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 6, page 425, Cyprien Tanguy
[9] Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles du Quebec, by Rene Jette (Jette), page 285, pub 1983
[10] Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1968; Riviere-des-Prairies, 1687-1727; Paroisse St-Joseph


Mariage entre Louis Courval et agnes goguet

l'an mil sept cent seize le dixieme de novembre apres avoir publié trois bans de mariage en la messe de paroisse pendant trois dimanches consecutifs sans qu'il se soit trouvé d'une opposition entre louis courval habitant de cette paroisse fils de f. Courval et f. hunaud ses pere et mere d'une part et entre agnes goguet fille de feus. goguet et M. bougoin habitans de cette paroisse de l'autre part ag reçu

[11]

Record for Louis subsequent marriage to Marguerite Couturier, including both the marriage contract witnessed by notary Nicolas Auguste Guillet-de-Chaumont, dated January 21, 1734; and the parish records from St-Joseph in Rivieres-des-Prairies list Louis as 'Louis Courval'. The parish records identify Louis mother as Jeanne Henault, and his father as Louis Courval, 'deceased'.


1734

Janvier 21 Mariage de Louis Courval & Marguerite Couturier

Février 16 Inventaire de la communauté de biens entre Louis Courval & Agnès Goguet.

[12]

[11] Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1968; Riviere-des-Prairies, 1687-1727; Paroisse St-Joseph

[12] Repertoire de Notaires, Montreal, Chaumont, Nicolas-Auguste Guillet de (1727-1752)

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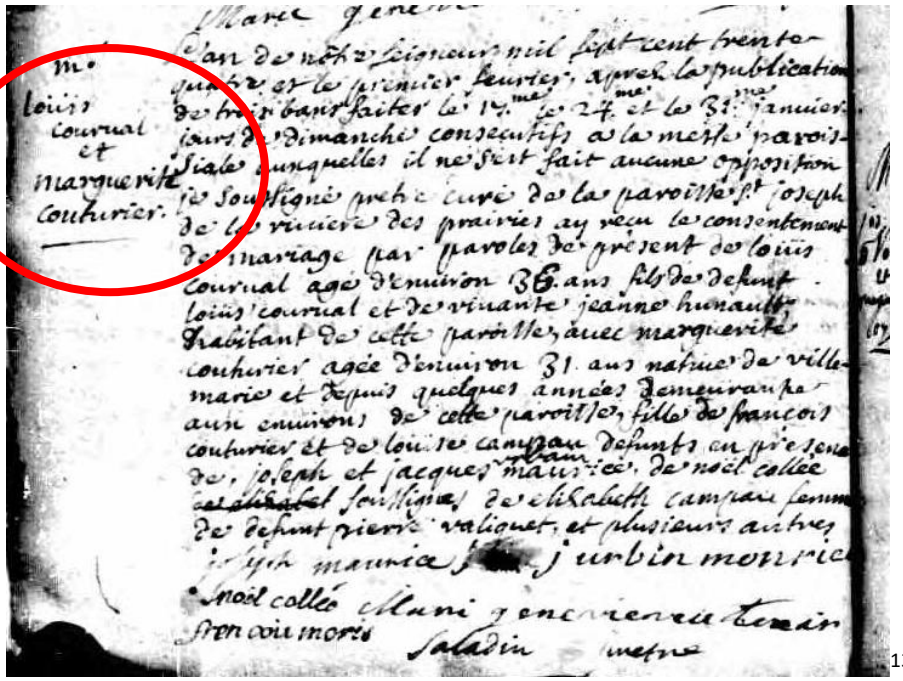
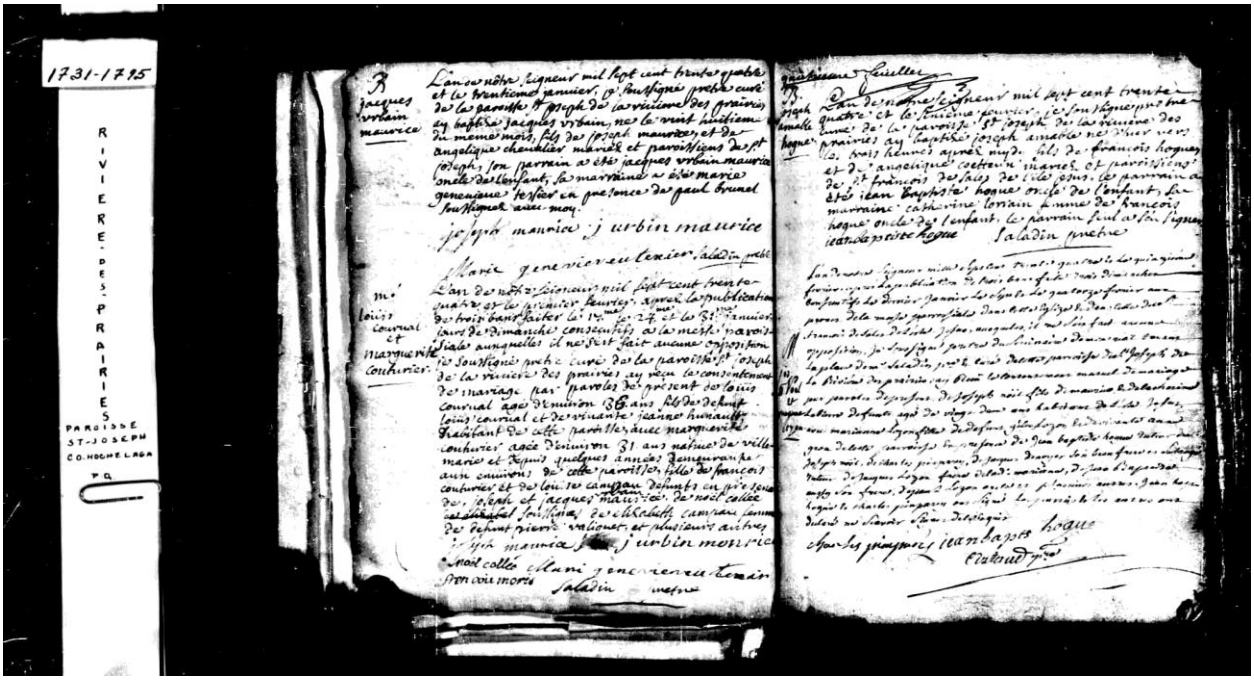


[13]



[13] Parish St-Joseph, Riviere-des-Prairies, 1731-1795. Dated February 1, 1734.

Jeanne Hunault

While there is a conjecture about Louis' father, the facts are well documented in regard to the identity of his mother. The known facts are as follows: Jeanne Hunault, the mother of Louis Augustine Courval, was the daughter of Toussant Hunault Deschamps and Marie Lorgueil. Jeanne was born in Montreal, and baptized on November 2, 1658. Jeanne married Adrien Quevillon on February 2, 1672, and together Jeanne and Adrien had 6 children.

Jeanne was widowed when Adrien was killed during a raid by the Iroquois in 1693. During that same raid, Jeanne was taken captive along with 2 of her daughters, Angelique and Catherine. It appears Jeanne was held captive from 1693 until 1698.

Jeanne's son, Louis, was conceived and born during the time of her captivity. After a peace treaty was agreed upon between the French, their allies the Huron, and the Iroquois, Jeanne, her surviving daughter Catherine, Louis and other captives were returned. Louis Augustin was baptized at Pointe-aux-Trembles on June 4, 1698. Louis was reportedly about 18 months of age at that time.

Jacques Courval

The identity of Louis' father, Jacques Courval, is the mystery.

Some have conjectured that the persona of 'Jacques' was merely a construct created to shield Jeanne from ridicule for having a child with one of her captors, and that 'Jacques' was a name attributed to the unknown Iroquois male who fathered Louis.

At this point, no DNA evidence has been proffered by those who are suggesting a First Nation connection. That would be one way to positively establish a link from Louis Augustine to the Native Peoples. More research is needed to verify any of these possible connections.

If Jeanne did meet a man named Jacques Courval while in captivity, then who was he, and where did he come from? Aside from the already referenced records, there is virtually no mention of a 'Jacques Courval' in the available contemporaneous records of that time period.

Canada Find a Grave identifies the burial marker for Jacques Corval at the Cimetiere Notre-Dame-des-Neighes. It identified his spouse as Jeanne Taillefer. Jeanne Taillefer is Jeanne Hunault, after her marriage to Pierre Taillefer in May 1699.

There are no parish burial records for Jacques, after the return of the hostages. As such, he does not appear to have been returned at the time of the peace treaty in 1698. It can be surmised he died in the captivity of the Iroquois, and that this memorial was placed in his honor by Jeanne Hunault or by their son Louis.

The grave reference for Jacques does provide an approximate birth date of 1653.

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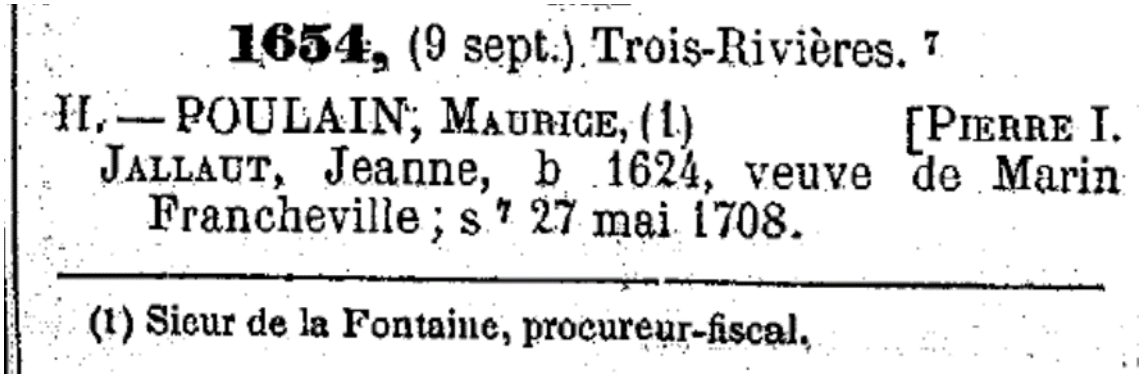
Poulin Connection

As noted previously, Tanguy lists Courval/Corval as a naming variation for the Poulan/Poulin family.

Several Poulin males in later years were identified as Sieur de Courval, and 'de-Francheville'. Based on the Poulin/Courval naming regarding Louis, a search for a suitable Jacques Poulin during this time period was undertaken but produced no concrete links to fit this timeline.

Looking into the Poulin family during this time period did however reveal a potential connection.

Tanguay, volume 1 page 496 lists the marriage of Maurice Poulain (sieur de la Fontaine, procureur-fiscal) and Jeanne Jallaut, the widow (veuve) of Marin Franchville, on September 9, 1654, at Trois-Rivieres, Montreal.

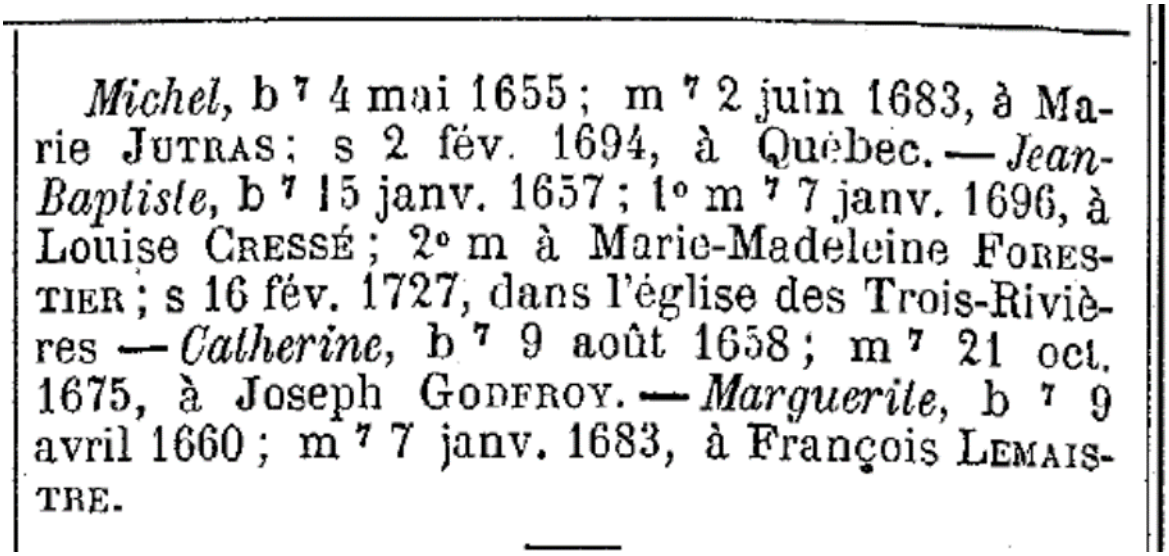


1654, (9 sept.) Trois-Rivières. [7]

H. — POULAIN, MAURICE, (1) [PIERRE I.
JALLAUT, Jeanne, b 1624, veuve de Marin Francheville ; s [7] 27 mai 1708.

(1) Sieur de la Fontaine, procureur-fiscal.

Maurice and Jeanne had 4 children Michael (1655-1694), Jean Baptiste (1657), Catherine (1658) and Marguerite (1660).



Michel, b [7] 4 mai 1655 ; m [7] 2 juin 1683, à Marie JUTRAS ; s 2 fév. 1694, à Québec. — *Jean-Baptiste*, b [7] 15 janv. 1657 ; 1° m [7] 7 janv. 1696, à Louise CRESSÉ ; 2° m à Marie-Madeleine FORESTIER ; s 16 fév. 1727, dans l'église des Trois-Rivières — *Catherine*, b [7] 9 août 1658 ; m [7] 21 oct. 1675, à Joseph GODFROY. — *Marguerite*, b [7] 9 avril 1660 ; m [7] 7 janv. 1683, à François LEMAISTRE.

Michel Poulain, the son of Maurice and Jeanne, is the same person erroneously identified in Tanquay as the father of Louis Augustine Courval.

Jeanne Jallout

Jeanne Jallout was the widow of Marin Terrier de Repentigny, Sieur de Francheville. Jeanne and Marin were married on September 3, 1647 in Quebec.[14] Jeanne and Marin had 3 sons, Pierre, baptized July 14, 1649; Jean Baptist, baptized October 8, 1650; and *Jacques*, baptized October 15, 1652.

Marin was killed by the Iroquois on August 19, 1652, leaving a heavily pregnant Jeanne with 2 young sons.

1647, (3 septembre) Québec.
I.—DE REPENTIGNY, (2) MARIN, b 1619, natif de Grandmesnil, en Normandie ; s...
JALLAUT, Jeanne, b 1624, fille de Moyse et de Marie Lapointe, de Fontenay-le-Comte, au Poitou. (3)
Pierre, b 14 juillet 1649, aux Trois-Rivières [8] ; ordonné 19 sept. 1676 ; s 7 août 1713, à Montréal. — *Jean-Baptiste*, b [3] 8 oct. 1650 ; s [3] 6 juillet 1654. — *Jacques*, b [3] 15 oct. 1652.[15]

Pierre Terrier (14 Jul 1649 to 7 Aug, 1713) was baptized in Trois Rivieres, and definitely lived with Maurice Poulin and Jeanne after their marriage. He is recorded in both the 1666 and 1667 censuses as Pierre deRepentigny. He is listed as Monsignor Francheville in the 1681 census.

Jean Baptist Terrier (8 Oct 1650 to 6 Jul 1654) died as a child.

Jacques Terrier de Repentigny

Jacques Terrier was baptized as Jacques Francheville on October 15, 1652 in Trois Rivieres, two months after his father's death; and he was not yet two years of age when his mother married Maurice Poulin. No death records have been located for Jacques under any of the potential family names (Terrier, deRepentigny, Francheville).

[14] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 1, 1608-1700, Page 183 Cyprien Tanguy,
[15] Dictionnaire Genealogique Des Familles Canadiennes, Volume 1, 1608-1700, Page 183 Cyprien Tanguy

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Catholic church parish records at this time were typically kept for all baptisms, marriages and burials that occurred within the parishes. The baptisms of Jacques and both his siblings are recorded, as are the baptisms of his half siblings during this same time period. If Jacques had died during this time period, his death, like that of his brother Jean Baptist, would normally be recorded. This does not mean that church records could not be absent, only that those omissions were not typical.

Jacques is not listed as being part of the Poulin household in the census of 1666 or 1667. Jacques would have been 14 or 15 years old by that time. Again, this is not conclusive, as 14- or 15-year-old males, especially those with no chance of property to inherit, were typically apprenticed out, or might be living outside the family home as servants.

Regarding any properties held by Marin Terrier DeRepentigny prior to his death. Any property or goods owned by Marin at the time of his death would likely transfer to his widow, and then to any spouse she might marry. This is the case in this situation.

Pierre DeRepentigny was a minor when his mother re-married, and attended the seminary from an early age. He was later ordained a priest, and as such would not inherit any of his father's property. Jacques would also have been a minor and unable to inherit any of his father's property. Even the term 'sieur de Francheville' was later attached to the Poulin family name.

A search has not produced any record of Jacques Courval/deRepentigny/Francheville being captured during raids by the Iroquois during this time period. However, that is far from conclusive, as the names of those captured or killed during this time period were not always recorded. Typically, only those killed outright, and whose bodies were recovered, were noted in parish records.

As Courval was recorded as a 'dit' name for Poulin, it is not a far stretch to think that a young man might have adopted it as a surname related to his stepfamily. Clearly if Jeanne claimed that her father's child was named Jacques Courval, this name had to come from somewhere.

As always, research continues.

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